Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 080991
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 MCT-01 /045 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:JKBISHOP:LLC
APPROVED BY NEA/AFN:JKBISHOP
NEA/P:RUNDELAND
----------031001 292355Z /21
O 292234Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 080991

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: NEW YORK TIMES REPORTS QADHAFI ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT.

1. NEW YORK TIMES ON MARCH 29 CARRIES FOLLOWING ARTICLE ON PAGE 10 UNDER HEADLINE ENTITLED "U.S. SAYS QADHAFI ESCAPED PLOT FATAL TO FOUR EAST GERMANS":

COL. MUAMMAR EL-QADDAFI, THE LIBYAN REVOLUTIONARY LEADER, WAS THE TARGET OF AN ASSASSINATION PLOT THAT MISFIRED MARCH 6 AND CAUSED THE DEATH OF TWO EAST GERMAN COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS, AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID TODAY.

ACCORDING TO REPORTS REACHING WASHINGTON, THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION IN A HELICOPTER THAT COLONEL QADDAFI WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN ABOARD DURING A VISIT BY THE EAST GERMANS TO AN AGRICULTURAL PROJECT OUTSIDE THE LIBYAN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 080991

CAPITAL, TRIPOLI.

THE HELICOPTER WAS CARRYING WERNER LAMBERZ, A MEMBER OF THE EAST GERMAN PARTY'S POLITBURO, AND PAUL MARKOWSKI, A MEMBER OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AS WELL AS TWO OTHER EAST GERMANS AND SEVEN LIBYANS.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

-
MR. LAMBERZ, WHO WAS 48 YEARS OLD, WAS WIDELY CONSIDERED A LIKELY SUCCESSOR TO ERICH HONECKER, WHO IS HEAD OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND IS ALSO CHIEF OF STATE.

THE REPORT, WHICH COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED, SAID THE HELICOPTER EXPLODED IN FLIGHT ABOUT 8:30 P.M. NEITHER THE EAST GERMAN PRESS AGENCY NOR THE LIBYAN PRESS AGENCY REPORTED THE ACCIDENT UNTIL THE FOLLOWING DAY.

ARREST OF OFFICERS REPORTED

WESTERN DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS HAVE REPORTED THE ARREST OF A NUMBER OF LIBYAN AIR FORCE OFFICERS AFTER THE HELICOPTER CRASH. REPORTS OF DISSENSION AMONG MILITARY LEADERS LED TO SPECULATION THAT LIBYAN OFFICERS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTEMPT TO KILL COLONEL QADDAFI. THE LIBYAN LEADER WAS APPRENTLY PRESENT DURING THE EAST GERMANS' VISIT TO THE AGRICULTURAL PROJECT.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAID COLONEL QADDAFI HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS THE TARGET OF AT LEAST SIX ASSASSINATION PLOTS SINCE SEP. 1, 1969, WHEN AS A YOUNG LIEUTENANT HE LED AN OFFICERS' COUP TO DEPOSE KING IDRIS.

2. DEPARTMENT UNAWARE ORIGIN OF THIS ARTICLE AND WILL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

REPLY TO ANY PRESS INQUIRIES THAT IT HAS NO INFORMATION OR COMMENT ON THE NYT REPORT.
COOPER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ASSASSINATION, PLOTS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE080991
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JKBISHOP:LLC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780137-0144
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780312/aaaaajoh.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0fb9d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3154880
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW YORK TIMES REPORTS QADHAFI ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT.
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SOPN, LY
To: TRIPOLI
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0fb9d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014